

Response
Application No. 10/034,122
Attorney Docket No. 011452

REMARKS

Claims 4-9 are pending in the present application. No amendment has been proposed. It is respectfully submitted that this Response is fully responsive to the Office Action dated July 11, 2006.

As to the Merits:

As to the merits of this case, the Examiner sets forth the following rejections:

1) claims 4-5 and 7-8 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,317,519 to Maeda in view of “Accelerated Splatting using a 3D adjacency data structure” by Jeff Orchard and Torsten Möller (hereinafter “Orchard”); and

2) claims 6 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Maeda and Orchard in view of additional prior art.

Each of these rejections is respectfully traversed.

It is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 4-9 is improper since Orchard fails to qualify as a prior art reference under 35 USC §§102 and 103(a).

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More specifically, Orchard's publication date of June 9, 2001 falls after the foreign priority date of January 11, 2001 of the present application.

Moreover, in order to perfect the filing date of the present application and thereby establish at least the foreign priority date of January 11, 2001 as the effective filing date for the present application, Applicant encloses herewith a verified English language translation of the Japanese priority document JP 2001-003548 of the present application. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection claims 4 -9 based on Orchard is respectfully requested.

In view of the aforementioned remarks, Applicant submits that the claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant requests such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

Response

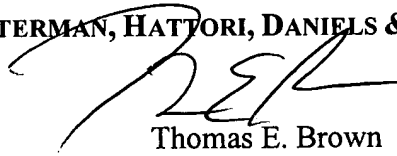
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If this paper is not timely filed, Applicant respectfully petitions for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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